to state:

(a) what is the total number of Central Government Industrial Tribunals in the country, District-wise;

(b) what is the numbner of vacancies of Presiding Officers in the Central Industrial Tribunals;

(c) whether it is a fact that these vacancies are filled up from amongst retired High Court Judges and retired District Judges;

(d) if so, what efforts have been taken or are being taken to appoint these retired Judges immediately after their retirement without delay;

(e) whether any arrangements have been made to intimate these retiring Judges about their new assignment, prior to their retirement, to avoid delay in their apointment as Presiding Officers, Officers of Central Industrial Tribunals;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) At present eleven Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts (CGITs)—two each at Bombay and Dhanbad and one each at Asansol, Bangalore, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Jabalpur, Kanpur and New Delhi are functioning in the country out of which the posts of Presiding Officer are lying vacant at Jabalpur, No. 1 Dhanbad, No. 2 Bombay and Kanpur. Another CGIT sanctioned at Jaipur during January, 1992 has not yet started functioning as the post of Presiding Officer has not been filled.

(c) to (g) As per provisions contained in Sections 7 and 7A of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, serving as well as retired High Court Judges, District Judges and Additional District Judges can be appointed as Presiding Officers of Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts. According to the present procedure, in anticipation of a vacancy likely to arise in a CGIT, a panel of names of suitable and willing Judicial Officers is obtained from the High Courts of the State in which the CGIT is situated and its adjoining States for selecting an incumbent for appointment to the post.

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers

2481. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 27,000 bonded labourers identified and freed are still awaiting rehabilitation;

(b) if so, the break-up of the figure of the bonded labourers State-wise who had been identified and freed, and are still awaiting rehabilitation;

(c) the financial assistance given to them for this purpose with effect from the year 1986; and

(d) what is the plan of government to deal with this problem in a quick manner, give details of the same in respect of all the States from where the bonded labourers had been identified and freed for the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) According to the latest reports received from the State Government, the total number of bonded labourers remaining to be rehabilitated, as on 31-3-1993, was 10,345. The State-wise figures, are as detailed below:—

State	No. of bonded labourers remaining to be rehabilitated as on 31-3-93
1. Andhra Pradesh	7216
2. Bihar	391
3. Karnataka	2450
4. Madhya Pradesh	54
5. Orissa	26
6. Rajasthan	141
7. Tamil Nadu	67
TOTAL	10,345

(c) From 1986-87 to 1992-93 (as on 31-3-1993) an amount of Rs. 15.50 crores has been released to State Governments for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers as Central share of assistance.

(d) In order to rehabilitate the remaining bonded labourers in a speedy manner, targets

for rehabilitation of bonded labourers are fixed for each State every year. The State Governments are required to achieve the targets. The progress in this regard is effectively monitored by the Government. The targets fixed and achievement during the last three years is as under :—

Year	Target fixed for the rehabilitation of BLs.	No. of BLs. rehabilitated
1990-91	3596	2679
1991-92	4109	1824
1992-93	2317	3424

For the current year 1993-94, a target for the rehabilitation of 2179 bonded labourers has been fixed in consultation with the State Governments concerned. Recently, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh have indicated their willingness to substantially raise their target for the current year.

Norms Regarding Labourers Owned Industry

2482. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have encouraged Labourers owned industries in the past;

(b) if so, what are the norms followed;

(c) what are the daily wages fixed for labourers;

(d) whether Government propose to fix wages common to both men and women labourers;

(e) if so, by when Government propose to initiate the scheme; and

(f) if not, the reasons for discriminatory policy being followed in labourer wages on the question of sex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) government have taken a positive view in the matter of running of industries through labourer co-operatives. No uniform norms can be prescribed as the requirements would vary from case to case. Revival of sick industrial companies through workers' co-operative is one of the measures envisaged in the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) Minimum wage rates are fixed for different schedules of employments by the appropriate Governments.

(d) to (f) Government have already enacted the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 for the purpose of prevention of discrimination on account of sex in the matter of payment of wages.

Labour Migrants returning to the Country

2483. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) what is the numbner of labourer migrants who returned to the country during 1992-93; and

(b) what rehabilitation measures have been taken by Government for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The statistics of returning labourer migrants are not maintained.

(b) Such persons are entitled to all facilities and support from Banks and financial institutions for undertaking any viable economic activity within the guidelines laid by the Reserve Bank of India.

Functioning of Employment Exchanges

2484. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM : DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employment exchanges ensure employment;

(b) if not, what is the justification for their continued existence;

(c) whether it is a fact that nearly 0.33 percent of the unemployed on the live register of employment exchanges found placement during the period January—June, 1992;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for this poor placement, when unemployment is rising high in the country; and

(e) whether Government are considering to abolish the employment exchanges and if so, the details thereof?